



A District Branch of the American Psychiatric Association

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May 10, 2007

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Chairman Condino and Members of the House Judiciary Committee:

The Michigan Psychiatric Society, a district branch of the American Psychiatric Association, is a professional organization representing nearly 800 physicians in Michigan who practice in a wide range of settings, both public and private.

The Michigan Psychiatric Society supports HB 4259, which would allow second parent adoption.

Our support is consistent with a position held by the American Psychiatric Association, based on research that shows that children who have two parents do better than children with only one parent. Co-parenting can provide vital security for a child, including improved access to health care, death benefits, inheritance rights and the support of both parents. Adoption also protects the custody of the child in the event that one parent dies.

We wish to express our gratitude to Representative Condino for introducing this important legislation and to the Members of the Judiciary Committee for giving this issue your consideration.

Very truly yours,

Jed Magen, DO

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President-elect

Kathleen Gross

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Executive Director